

The Farmington Times.

VOL. 43

FARMINGTON, ST. FRANCOIS COUNTY, MISSOURI, FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1916.

NO. 2.

Karsch's SEMI-ANNUAL SHOE SALE

The place to buy Good Footwear cheap

Shoes and Hosiery
For every member of the family
AT BARGAIN PRICES

It will pay you to call early

A. M. Wallace Shoots Self Through Head

Prominent Farmer of Liberty Township Makes Careful Preparation to End Life.

A. M. Wallace, a well-to-do farmer and a citizen who stood high in the estimation of his neighbors and all who knew him, died by his own hands at his home near Libertyville Wednesday morning, January 26th.

On Monday he sent for his brother, W. C. Wallace, who lives at Syenite, to come and see him. For some years his mind had been somewhat clouded at times, and in the course of conversation with his brother, he said, "If anything should happen to me, I don't know that it will—I want you to look after Julie," his wife. "There is plenty for her to live on."

His brother stayed on with him that night, Tuesday and Tuesday night, during which time he appeared to be in a normal condition. At breakfast he excused himself from the table in a casual manner, his wife and brother not imagining that he had anything tragic in his mind. He walked into the next room, turned down a chair with the back slanting to the floor, placed a pillow on it and lay down with his head on the pillow. He stretched himself out, his feet crossed, placed his left arm across his breast, and putting a pistol to his right temple with his right hand, shot himself through the head.

Hearing the report of the gun, Mrs. Wallace and his brother rushed into the room and found him as just described, except that his right arm had fallen to his side and the pistol rested between that and his body. He had expired instantly.

Mr. Wallace was in good financial circumstances, owning a fine farm well stocked and had money in the bank. He left no note or anything to indicate why he took his own life, and it can only be surmised that he was mentally unbalanced at the time, for, as stated above, his mind for some years had at times been a little off.

He leaves a wife and one daughter, Mrs. Homer Presnell, to mourn his sad death. He was a member of the Christian Church, and Rev. J. M. Bailey of Farmington conducted the religious service at his funeral, which took place yesterday afternoon, and his body was laid "at rest" with Masonic rites in the Libertyville cemetery.

The Times joins the many friends of the family in sincere sympathy for them in this great sorrow that has come into their lives.

Money to loan on real estate security.—See J. S. Clay.

Silage Carts FOR SALE

—AT—
Isenman's

ANOTHER FINE MANUFACTURING PLANT IN FARMINGTON

A Times reporter this week nosed out another manufacturing plant, of which this community should feel proud. The trail was not a cold one, however, as we had been informed, after a recent write-up of Lang Bros. Mfg. Co., that there was another wagon factory in this city.

On Monday afternoon the reporter presented himself to the workshop of Isenman & Co., builders of wagons, plows, etc. We were heartily received by Sam Isenman, the only member of the firm present, who graciously conducted us through the plant, pointing out many things of interest, and explaining many things in regard to the plant and business that were of much interest to the scribe.

In passing through the many clusters of buildings, splendid equipment was everywhere seen for the manufacture of the very best possible products. There was hickory in abundance, of which the wagon frame is very largely constructed, that has been in the drying sheds for the past three years. No kind of wood is permitted to go through the finishing rooms until the last particle of sap has disappeared and the seasoning process is through.

A very unusual thing in regard to the Isenman & Co. factory is that every department is under the personal supervision of a member of the firm, which enables them to keep up the quality of their product to the highest possible efficiency. This has resulted in the reputation of the Isenman Wagon being held up to the highest possible standard. The founder of this factory, John Isenman, and his two sons, Sam and Joe, compose the firm,

while associated with them, in the blacksmithing department, are Messrs. Hermann & Herbst. John Isenman was one of the founders of this business about forty years ago, and it has been in continuous operation ever since. For the past thirty years the membership of the firm has been as it is now constituted.

That it is impossible to construct a better farm wagon than those turned out by Isenman & Co., has long been known throughout this country, which fact is demonstrated by the large number of them that have for many years been in use throughout St. Francois and adjacent counties. This company makes no effort to secure car load shipments, but is content to supply the local trade. They average about six wagons a month, all of which find a ready market, at a little higher price than other wagons.

The time of this factory, however, is not entirely given up to the manufacture of wagons. They have established a trade for a plow of their own make. They also deal extensively in farm machinery and repairs. Their repair department is given careful attention, and it is a branch in which they are particularly adept. While there the writer saw an automobile wheel they had just rebuilt, and it appeared to be better and more durable than it had been originally. We also saw a silage cart of their own make, with which they have recently been supplying an ever increasing demand.

Many life-time users of the Isenman wagons would not know how to get along without them. They fill a most apparent need.

Will Arcadia Get the To-be Merged Methodist Colleges?

The Fredericktown Democrat-News says the following letter has been received by a number of people of that city. The suggestion contained therein, and which seems to be a surprise to our Fredericktown friends, was published in the Farmington Times on December 17, 1915, just after the Joint Commission, created by the Annual Conferences of the two Methodist Churches, under whose auspices Carleton College at Farmington and Marvin College at Fredericktown are conducted, met in St. Louis that week. We then called attention to the fact that if the idea of the Commission was carried out both Farmington and Fredericktown might lose these schools. Here is the letter sent out by the committee appointed to represent the Joint Commission, which seems to have cart-blanche to do as it pleases:

January 7, 1916.

Dear Sir:—

At a meeting of the Joint Commission on the union of Marvin and Carleton Colleges, held December 21, 1915, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, that if by the sale of either College property, or otherwise, funds can be secured to pay all debts on both institutions and equip the remaining plant as recommended by the report of Messrs. Fristoe and Matthews, or to the satisfaction of this body.

OR, IF BY THE SALE OF BOTH PLANTS ALL DEBTS CAN BE PAID, AND A NEW PLANT BE EQUIPPED ON ARCADIA ASSEMBLY GROUNDS OR ELSEWHERE; THAT WE APPROVE SUCH ACTION AND THE UNION OF THE TWO SCHOOLS, ON THE BASIS ALREADY PROVIDED BY THIS COMMISSION.

A committee, Mr. L. Boeger, Mr. Hanford Crawford, Rev. H. P. Crowe and Rev. B. F. Crissman, was appointed to represent the Joint Commission under the above resolution; and the committee directed the undersigned to notify an agreed list of friends in Fredericktown and in Farmington of this action.

As soon after January 15, 1916, as practicable, and at the call of Dr. Crowe, this committee will visit Farmington and Fredericktown, to ascertain the wishes of these communities regarding the two colleges in question.

Respectfully,
HANFORD CRAWFORD,
Chairman.

The Democrat-News says it has in-

terviewed a number of prominent men and friends of the school at that place relative to the action of the committee, and without exception they brand the action as "childish and absurd." But the Commission, it seems, has the authority and power to do this very thing if the properties of the two schools can be disposed of as suggested. The Democrat-News says "that the people whose money has been poured into the coffers of the two schools for the past many years are entitled to a knowledge of what is going on," and it says that "one man who has put a great deal of money into the plant at Fredericktown remarked that a business man would never dream of selling the Marvin plant for anything near what it cost." The same may be said of the Carleton plant here.

And yet, the suggestion of an entirely new location for the consolidated colleges, if it should be consummated, contained in the commission's unanimously adopted resolutions, gives the people of both towns something to think about, and as we remarked in our issue of December 17th, it behooves them to "get busy."

U. D. C. Reception

General Robt. E. Lee's birthday anniversary was January 19th and the U. D. C. all over the land made it a day of observation. Owing to the fact that so many teachers are members of the local organization, it was decided to hold the reception Saturday afternoon with Mrs. O. J. Mayberry. Mrs. Scrutcheff, Mrs. Alma Rider and Mrs. Mayberry formed the receiving line, and welcomed the numerous guests from 3 to 5 o'clock.

During the evening an interesting program was presented. Mrs. Scrutcheff, the president, made a little talk. Elizabeth Gruner gave a reading, Mrs. Duggins a violin solo, Mrs. Samuel Tetley a paper concerning the life of Gen. Lee, and Miss Cunningham sang two Southern melodies and the guests joined in the chorus with a will.

Refreshments were served in the dining room, Mrs. Marbury and Mrs. Gruner being assisted by Elizabeth Gruner and Barbara Caroline Tullock.

JUSTICE GOOD GETS IN

"NEAR AND FAR" COLUMN
Says the St. Louis Republic's "Missouri Near and Far" column: Farmington has a Justice of the Peace who specializes in matrimony. His slogan, printed on his card, is "Your photograph free when married by me."

THE LEAD BELT VS. THE JOPLIN FIELD

Brief Explanation of the Injustice of Contrasting the Methods of Working These Two Great Mineral Fields.

There are two ways to run a mining district. They are strikingly exemplified in Southeast Missouri and Southwest Missouri, respectively.

In Southeast Missouri the great lead mines are owned by so few corporations that you can count them on the fingers of one hand. Nobody knows how many independent operators there are in Southwest Missouri; but their name is legion. Southeast Missouri is a rich man's district; Southwest Missouri is a poor man's district. Yet it is Southwest Missouri that shows us thriving cities, a net work of interurban railroads, good roads which are the admiration of the nation, schools worth of the old States of the Atlantic seaboard. It is Southwest Missouri that has a "mining camp" of 40,000 to 50,000 people, with a million dollar hotel, stately churches, dozens of miles of pavements, five and seven story commercial buildings and certain elm-lined residence streets that reminded at least one recent visitor of portions of Springfield, Mass.

These things have come out of the "poor man's camp." But the best camp in Southeast Missouri is still struggling to exercise its right to form a municipal corporation, that it may install waterworks, lay sewers and operate its own lights!

We do not mean to imply that Southeast Missouri could have produced another Joplin district. Its disseminated lead deposits require the use of large masses of capital for profitable production, while in Southwest Missouri many a poor fellow has started a mine on a capital of a second-hand pick and shovel and a few dollars' worth of provisions bought on credit, and taken out shallow lead enough the first week to carry him on until he struck the "jack"—zinc blend—which was the object of his search. But we do assert that Southwest Missouri has grown in wealth as only a district can that makes opportunity universal, and this for other reasons than the simple fact that the region is almost universally mineralized, with many rich and shallow deposits.

The Joplin district has had wealthy men for more than a quarter of a century who could have converted it into a district of wage-workers had they been so inclined. But these men would not have felt at home in such a district. They would not have felt that it was "fair to the rest of the boys." The Joplin of thirty years ago was a frontier community, with a frontier community's rude views and glaring defects. Its leaders had the defects of their qualities—but their most jaundiced critic must admit that they believed in equality of human opportunity, recognized the fact that, in mining, at least, industry often goes unrewarded, and took a keen pleasure in keeping open to their old associates and the young men of the "decadent" the same road to success that their own feet had trodden. The thriving cities and prosperous villages of the region today, with the most democratic society in the United States, are monuments to the instinctive way in which these men of an older generation held to the idea of equality of opportunity as fundamental to community and social welfare.

The recent intensive development of the zinc industry in Southwest Missouri is an industrial story of absorbing interest. But in looking at that thriving region the outside observer ought to take first things first. The Joplin district affords a great example of the profitable production of zinc; but that fact yields in importance to the fact that it affords a great example of the development of human society.

The region is self-developed, self-taught. It invented its own machinery, originated its own mining methods and developed its own leasing system, unhelped by the technical knowledge and financial experience of other regions. Its leaders today are chiefly the sons and daughters of its own people, and its miners and mill hands have been born and bred in the district, without even a sprinkling of European importations.

A single fact tells the whole story of the direction of development. Thirty years ago the schools of Joplin graduated no students; the boys and girls "just quit." Today Jasper county sends more students to the State University than any other county in the State, save one.

The Joplin district mines zinc,

but that is not the principal industry. It makes Americans and it conserves American traditions, in a way to afford special ground for pride to every Missourian.

—St. Louis Republic.

What the Republic says about the Joplin mineral district and that it offers opportunities to the poor man that the Lead Belt district of St. Francois county does not, is doubtless true, but then it is a little unfair in contrasting these two great mineral districts of Missouri. Conditions are in every way so different that it is impossible for the opportunities offered energetic men of small or no means in the Joplin district to obtain in the Lead Belt.

In the former the enterprising miner with pick and shovel may go on the rich man's holdings and mine for a royalty, as brawn and a will to do can there supply the place of capital, and the holders of the rich mineral lands there can well afford to let them do this, for it probably brings to the latter a greater profit than if they were organized into large employing corporations.

This of course cannot be done in the disseminated lead lands of Southeast Missouri. The lead here is not only disseminated with lime stone, but it lies from 200 to 500 feet beneath the surface. To sink a single shaft to reach this disseminated ore costs from \$15,000 to \$20,000, then the rock must be blasted, hoisted to the surface with expensive hoisting apparatus, and mills which cost up into the millions have to be built to crush the rock and separate the ore. There is no conceivable way in which a miner of small means could do this independently. It would take a multimillionaire to work any one of the big mines in this county on his own initiative, hence corporations are formed, stock sold and the money raised to start and operate a mine in the disseminated lead district.

That miners working on their own responsibility in a mineral district where the products are so easily and inexpensively got at as they are in the Joplin districts are more fortunate than those who work for corporations on a wage scale, must be conceded. If they are thrifty and look ahead, as many of them are and do, they can build and improve their homes and become permanent and substantial citizens, rear their families under the most favorable circumstances and help to elevate the community socially, intellectually and otherwise. Conditions might be bettered in the Lead Belt by the companies selling surface-right lots instead of leasing them—and this we believe some of them are doing or contemplate doing—so that miners with families who are thrifty enough may build up and own a home of their own. It would encourage the wage earners and give them something to work and save for.

As to incorporating the towns in the Lead Belt, we agree with the Republic that this ought to be done, for the sanitary conditions cannot be much improved unless this is done, and it would also conduce to better order and law enforcement. But as to schools, we doubt that the Joplin district, with all of its natural advantages to encourage private enterprise and thrift, is much if any ahead of the Lead Belt district. Flat River, Desloge and Bonne Terre have splendid public schools and each has a High School affiliating with the State University. Elvins expects this year to have its High School and Leadwood has a two-year course of High School training. These High School buildings are beautiful structures and modern in every respect. We have not mentioned the Farmington High School, one of the best and most up-to-date schools in the State, as Farmington, though the county seat of St. Francois county, is not properly in the Lead Belt district.

It is understood that the "Progressive" committee's greeting to T. R. as "the first American and the foremost statesman of the world" found the Colonel in thorough agreement.